

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-10 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-15 DOTE-00 INT-08

AEC-11 PRS-01 PA-03 USIA-12 HUD-02 HEW-08 CG-00 AGR-20

TRSE-00 H-03 CU-04 RSR-01 /207 W

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R 181642Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6351

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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DEPT PASS TO CEQ AND EPA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, GW

SUBJECT: US-FRG AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

SUMMARY: FRG MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (MININT) OFFICIALS
PROPOSED TO EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE THAT BILATERAL
AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS BE
PREPARED FOR SIGNATURE BY FRG INTERIOR MINISTER
GENSCHER DURING HIS VISIT TO US, POSSIBLY IN SEPTEMBER
1973. MININT REPS DID NOT RPT NOT PRESENT DRAFT TEXT
BUT OUTLINED SEVERAL POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION BY USG.
ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS
ABOUT FRG VIEWS ASAP AND, IF USG INTERESTED, A DRAFT
TEXT FOR DISCUSSION WITH FRG. END SUMMARY.

1. FRG MININT OFFICIALS INVITED EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE
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TO CALL FOR DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE US-FRG AGREEMENT FOR

COOPERATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS. MININT REPS EXPLAINED THAT FRG MINISTER GENSCHER'S LONG-PLANNED VISIT TO THE US MIGHT NOW TAKE PLACE IN SEPTEMBER. HIS STAFF HOPED THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO SIGN ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT AT THAT TIME.

2. MININT REPS ENVISIONED "STANDARD" AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND PERSONNEL AND FOR POSSIBLE COORDINATED PROGRAMS. INFORMATION TO BE EXCHANGED WOULD INCLUDE DATA ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS, RESEARCH PLANNING, RESEARCH RESULTS AND NATIONAL POLICIES. PERSONNEL COULD BE EXCHANGED AS DELEGATIONS, FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS AT UNIVERSITIES AND FOR LIAISON AND EDUCATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS TO NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FACILITIES. COORDINATED PROGRAMS COULD INCLUDE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

3. MININT REPS ARGUED STRONGLY THAT ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT SHOULD PROVIDE FOR BILATERAL "COORDINATING COMMITTEE" AND FOR "EXPERT GROUPS" TO CARRY OUT TASKS ASSIGNED BY THE COMMITTEE. THIS MECHANISM IS PART OF THE FRENCH-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT AND WILL BE INCLUDED IN UK-FRG AND USSR-FRG AGREEMENTS WHEN THESE ARE CONCLUDED.

4. SCIATT PROMISED TO REPORT MININT VIEWS AND TO SEEK PROMPT COMMENTS. ON "PERSONAL" BASIS, SCIATT SUGGESTED ONE "PROGRAM COORDINATOR" APPOINTED BY EACH SIDE WOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR INITIAL PHASES OF COOPERATIVE US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM.

5. SCIATT ALSO RECALLED US LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF BEST POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY AND FOR INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS. US-FRG ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION SHOULD CERTAINLY

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PROVIDE FOR EXCHANGE OF DATA ABOUT TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDS. SIMILARLY (IN VIEW STATE 130590) FRUITFUL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE CONSULTATIONS LEADING TO DEVELOPMENT OF COORDINATED POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. MININT REPS WERE ALSO INTERESTED IN THESE TOPICS AND AGREED THEY WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR CONSIDERATION.

6. EMBASSY COMMENT: RE PARA 4 ABOVE: US-FRG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATION IN HIGH SPEED GROUND TRANSPORTATION (BONN 8515) PROVIDES FOR APPOINTMENT OF "PROGRAM COORDINATORS". THIS SHOULD BE ADEQUATE DURING INITIAL PHASES OF ANY COOPERATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM. PREMATURE CREATION OF OVERLY FORMAL MECHANISM TO IMPLEMENT BILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM COULD FURTHER DISSIPATE VERY LIMITED PERSONNEL RESOURCES OF FRG MININT AND INTERFERE WITH OTHER HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAMS OF INTEREST TO US, I.E. IN CCMS AND OECD. FURTHERMORE, FRG FOREIGN OFFICE IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN GENERAL US-FRG AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE POLITICAL BALANCE FOR AGREEMENTS BOTH US AND FRG HAVE SIGNED WITH USSR. IF THIS FRG INTEREST LEADS TO FORMAL PROPOSAL AND IS ACCEPTED BY USG, WE ASSUME THAT SUCH OVERALL AGREEMENT WOULD NECESSARILY ESTABLISH SOME KIND OF US-FRG "JOINT COMMISSION" TO MATCH THOSE CREATED BY US AND FRG AGREEMENTS WITH USSR. FOR THIS REASON, TOO, EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT SHOULD PROVIDE FOR LESS FORMAL IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM. WE WOULD

APPRECIATE COMMENTS ASAP.

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